

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 STR-07 AGRE-00 COME-00
CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-20 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-15 /125 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OT/GCP - CMAST
APPROVED BY EB/OT/GCP - J SLATTERY
ARA/ECP - GFALK (INFO)
AGRICULTURE - HHIRSCH
STR - DCOOPER
-----017235 081648Z /11
P 081600Z SEP 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 227857

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: GSP REVIEW: PETITION OF GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS

REF: A) TEGUCIGALPA 4149 B) STATE 210447

1. THE TPSC WAS ABLE TO ACCEPT THE PETITION OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS FOR REVIEW SINCE IT CONTAINED THE
NECESSARY INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE REGULATIONS.
BASED ON INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE PETITION AND AN
ANALYSIS OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE TPSC,
IT WAS CONCLUDED THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE TO MAKE AN
IMMEDIATE DETERMINATION NOT TO ADD THE PRODUCTS REQUESTED
BY THE GOH AT THIS TIME.

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2. MORE SPECIFICALLY, SEVERAL TOBACCO ITEMS, INCLUDING
TSUS 170.45, WERE CONSIDERED FOR ADDITION TO GSP DURING
THE 1977 REVIEW. BASED ON THE PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OTHER
ANALYSIS, IT WAS DETERMINED THAT THESE TOBACCO ITEMS
WERE IMPORT SENSITIVE IN THE CONTEXT OF GSP AND CON-
SEQUENTLY COULD NOT BE ADDED TO THE DUTY-FREE LIST.
THIS YEAR, HONDURAS AS WELL AS SEVERAL OTHER GOVERNMENTS,

REQUESTED SIMILAR OR ADDITIONAL TOBACCO ITEMS FOR ADDITION TO GSP. THE TPSC DETERMINED HOWEVER THAT CIRCUMSTANCES HAD NOT CHANGED TO THE EXTENT THAT

WOULD WARRANT A RE-EVALUATION OF THESE ITEMS.

3. BEE HONEY (TSUS 155.70) HAS A LOW DUTY (1 CENT PER POUND), THE INDUSTRY IS COMPRISED OF MANY SMALL BEEKEEPERS WHO ARE ALREADY THREATENED BY LARGE COMMERCIAL FIRMS, AND THE US INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION BROUGHT AN AFFIRMATIVE FINDING UNDER A SECTION 201 ESCAPE CLAUSE ACTION IN 1976. BASED ON THESE FACTORS IT WAS DECIDED THAT HONEY WAS IMPORT SENSITIVE AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR GSP AT THIS TIME.

4. THERE WERE SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS THAT PETITIONED FOR THE ADDITION OF TSUS 141.65 (TOMATO PASTE) TO THE GSP LIST. HOWEVER VIRTUALLY ALL IMPORTS OF THIS PRODUCT COME FROM BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND GIVEN THE SENSITIVITY OF THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY WE WERE UNABLE TO CONSIDER THIS PRODUCT AT THIS TIME.

5. IF HONDURAS IS INTERESTED IN MAKING ORAL OR WRITTEN STATEMENTS AT THE PUBLIC HEARINGS ON PRODUCTS OF INTEREST PROPOSED BY OTHER COUNTRIES, IT SHOULD UNCLASSIFIED

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CONTACT THE SECRETARY OF THE TPSC AS PER PARA THREE OF REF B. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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